



JON M. HUNTSMAN, JR.  
*Governor*

GARY R. HERBERT  
*Lieutenant Governor*

# State of Utah

## DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

### Division of Oil, Gas & Mining

MICHAEL R. STYLER  
*Executive Director*

JOHN R. BAZA  
*Division Director*

March 11, 2008

Jared Jackson  
American Gilsonite Company  
29950 South Bonanza Highway  
Bonanza, Utah 84008

Subject: Further Requirements for Updating Mine Plan, American Gilsonite, Bonanza Mine, M0470010, Task 2233, Uintah County, Utah

Dear Mr. Jackson:

On February 1, 2008, the Division received from you a new map showing the locations of existing mine sites with some sites removed and the new ones, such as B-48, E-32, and I-30, added. The addition and subtraction of sites affects other portions of the mine plan, and these should also be changed. Some have not been updated in many years. We were able to identify the following pages and maps in the plan that should be updated, but there may be others:

1. Page 4. Acreage figures broken down to mine sites, roads, processing facilities, etc.
2. Pages 4a and 4b. Table of mine sites.
3. Page 4c. Table of other operations.
4. Page 2a. Legal descriptions.
5. Page 5c. NPDES locations.
6. Page 6f. Topsoil inventory.
7. You should examine Maps I and II to be sure they are accurate.
8. The plan contains several mine workings location maps and surface facilities and disturbance location maps. Several of these could probably be deleted, but others may still be needed.

Because the reclamation surety is linked to a contract with the Board of Oil, Gas and Mining, the Division will not be able to release these sites without their approval. You have previously been notified of the need for Board action for sites to be released.

We envision the plan being a dynamic document that is updated periodically, such as when you add a new mine site, seek release of a site, or when the bond is adjusted. If changes are made more routinely, they will be less onerous.

Jared Jackson  
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M0470010  
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The Division recommends that you modify the reclamation seed mixture. We have previously given you seed mix recommendations, but the following mix was recommended by a representative of the Bureau of Land Management, Steve Strong. Mr. Strong and Division reclamation biologist Paul Baker recently attended a meeting where the problem of cheatgrass competition was discussed extensively, and experts from Utah State University and the Ashley National Forest made recommendations about certain species and varieties that should be used, especially in very dry environments.

Species	Pounds Pure Live Seed/Acre
Vavilov or Vavilov II Siberian Wheatgrass	3
Bottlebrush Squirreletail	2
Western Wheatgrass	1
Wyoming Big Sage	0.5
Shadscale	2
Fourwing Saltbush	2
Forage Kochia	0.1

We ask that you submit changes to the mine plan using the enclosed form MR-REV with instructions on how to replace, add, or delete pages.

Thank you for your cooperation. If you have questions about this letter, please call me at 801-538-5258 or Paul Baker at 801-538-5261.

Sincerely,



Susan M. White  
Mining Program Coordinator  
Minerals Regulatory Program

SMW:PBB:pb  
Enclosure: Form MR-REV  
cc: Stan Perkes, BLM State Office  
P:\GROUPS\MINERALS\WP\M047-Uintah\M0470010-AGC\final\def-03102008.doc

## INSTRUCTIONS to REVISE or AMEND MINING OPERATIONS NOTICE OF INTENTION

When an operator intends to revise or amend a mining operation, a **notice** to Amend or Revise the mining and reclamation plan **must be submitted** to the Division **and approved prior to creating any disturbance beyond what has already been approved**. The notice must include all information, concerning the revision or amendment, that would have been required if it had been included in the original Notice of Intention (NOI).

**"REVISION"** means a **significant change** to the approved Notice of Intention to Conduct Mining Operations, which will increase the amount of land affected or alter the location and type of onsite surface facilities such that the nature of the reclamation plan will differ substantially from the approved Notice of Intention. Revisions require a formal public notice of tentative approval and may require a change in the amount of reclamation surety.

**"AMENDMENT"** is an **insignificant change** to the approved Notice of Intention. An amendment requires Division approval, but does not require public notice.

The Division will determine whether a request for change is significant or insignificant on an individual case-by-case basis.

### Instructions:

- Changes to the mining and reclamation plan are made by providing a completely new plan or by adding, replacing, or removing pages to the current plan. Detailed instructions for adding or replacing pages and maps must be included (please identify on the attached form MR-REV-att).
- Text changes should be shown in a redline/strikeout format.
- The amended application should be accompanied by a cover letter: referring to the permit number, operator name and mine; describing the contents; and referencing any Division action that initiated the change (i.e. Notice of Violation, previous review, Division Order).
- The submitted revision or amendment must be complete and should not rely on additional materials that will be submitted at a later date.
- Form MR-REV-att, or equivalent, must be submitted with the application for change.

After the Division conditionally approves the change, two clean copies will be requested which will be stamped "approved" and one copy returned for your copy of the mining and reclamation plan. The change is now approved and you may proceed with your plans.

Identify any changes this modification will have to:

**I. General Information (R647-4-104)**

- Location of Proposed Activities:
- COUNTY
- TOWNSHIP, RANGE, SECTION(S) (Identify to 1/4, 1/4 section)

**Ownership of Land Surface:**

- Private (Fee) - Identify Owners Name(s)
- State of Utah (SITLA) lands, Public Domain BLM), National Forest (USFS)

**Ownership of Minerals:**

- Private (Fee) - Identify Owners Name(s)
- State of Utah (SITLA) lands, Public Domain BLM), National Forest (USFS)
- **BLM Lease or Project File Number(s) and/or USFS assigned Project Number(s)**
- **Utah State Lease Numbers(s)**

**II. MAPS, DRAWINGS & PHOTOGRAPHS (Rule R647-4-105)**

Appropriate maps, drawings, plates, etc. should be provided that are pertinent to the revision, or amendment of mining operations. Please provide a revised map outlining the previously approved and the new proposed disturbed area boundaries. These materials should be prepared according to the requirements of Rule R647-4-105.

**III. OPERATION PLAN (Rule R647-4-106)**

All appropriate information requirements outlined under Rule R647-4-106 must be addressed in the application. Identify additional proposed surface disturbance. Include the total number of acres to be affected by the revision or amendment.

**IV. IMPACT ASSESSMENT (Rule R647-4-109)**

Provide information required under Rule R647-4-109 regarding projected potential surface and/or subsurface impacts that may be associated with the proposed change(s) in mining operations.

**V. RECLAMATION PLAN (Rule R647-4-110)**

Outline any proposed changes to the originally approved reclamation plan. Address all appropriate sections of Rule R647-4-110 as they apply to the proposed change(s) in mining operations.

**VI. VARIANCE (Rule R647-4-112)**

Identify any requests for variance from the requirements of rules R647-4-107, -108, or -111. A narrative justification and alternate methods or mitigating measures must be included for each variance request.

**VII. SURETY (Rule 647-4-113)**

**Reclamation Surety:**

Indicate whether the proposed activities will change the amount of work required to reclaim the mine site. If significant changes will result, then an itemized reclamation cost estimate should be provided (and attached) with direct reference to the specifics of the proposed change(s). This information will be used to assist the Division in determining any reclamation surety adjustments required for the operation.

## Application for Mineral Mine Plan Revision or Amendment

<b>Operator:</b> _____			
<b>Mine Name:</b> _____			<b>File Number:</b> M/ _____ / _____
Provide a detailed listing of all changes to the mining and reclamation plan that will be required as a result of this change. Individually list all maps and drawings that are to be added, replaced, or removed from the plan. Include changes of the table of contents, section of the plan, pages, or other information as needed to specifically locate, identify and revise or amend the existing Mining and Reclamation Plan. <b>Include page, section and drawing numbers as part of the description.</b>			
DETAILED SCHEDULE OF CHANGES TO THE MINING AND RECLAMATION PLAN			
			DESCRIPTION OF MAP, TEXT, OR MATERIALS TO BE CHANGED
<input type="checkbox"/> ADD	<input type="checkbox"/> REPLACE	<input type="checkbox"/> REMOVE	
<input type="checkbox"/> ADD	<input type="checkbox"/> REPLACE	<input type="checkbox"/> REMOVE	
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**I hereby certify that I am a responsible official of the applicant and that the information contained in this application is true and correct to the best of my information and belief in all respects with the laws of Utah in reference to commitments and obligations, herein.**

\_\_\_\_\_  
 Print Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
 Sign Name, Position

\_\_\_\_\_  
 Date

**Return to:**

State of Utah  
 Department of Natural Resources  
 Division of Oil, Gas and Mining  
 1594 West North Temple, Suite 1210  
 Box 145801  
 Salt Lake City, Utah 84114-5801  
 Phone: (801) 538-5291 Fax: (801) 359-3940

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<b>FOR DOGM USE ONLY:</b>
File #: M/ _____ / _____
Approved: _____
Bond Adjustment: from (\$) _____
to \$ _____